

REMARKS

SPECIFICATION

As indicated by the *Amendments to the Specification* located on page 2 of this paper, the specification has been amended to insert a paragraph stating generally that various embodiments of the chamber 13 include a cross-section that is preferably bigger and/or larger than the separate flow channel 5. Support for this amendment can be found in Figures 1-5, for example, of the specification as-filed. No further elaboration is believed necessary. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this objection to the specification be withdrawn.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-9 are pending. Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that the main flow channel has a wall and that a plurality of struts support the incorporated surface relative to the wall. Dependent claims 2-9 remain unchanged. Accordingly, no new matter has been added by these amendment and no estoppels are intended thereby.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

OFFICE ACTION

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

(1) Claims 1-5 and 7-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Streiff et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant notes that a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. (quoting *Verdegall Bros. V. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987)).

Amended claim 1, and therefore dependent claims 2-5 and 7-9, recite a plurality of struts

that support the incorporated surface relative to the wall. The Streiff patent does not disclose at least this aspect of the claims, and therefore fails to anticipate claims 1-5 and 7-9.

Accordingly, for at least this reason, Applicant respectfully requests that this § 102(b) rejection of claims 1-5 and 7-9 be withdrawn.

(2) Claims 1-5, 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Isahaya. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As discussed in connection with previous the 102(b) rejection, amended claim 1, and therefore dependent claims 2-5, 8 and 9, recite a plurality of struts that support the incorporated surface relative to the wall. Similar to the Streiff patent, the Isahaya patent fails to disclose at least this aspect of the claims. Applicant respectfully submits that Isahaya therefore fails to anticipate claims 1-5 and 7-9.

Accordingly, for at least this reason, Applicant respectfully requests that this § 102(b) rejection of claims 1-5, 8 and 9 be withdrawn.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

(1) Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being allegedly unpatentable over either Isahaya or Streiff et al. in view of USSR 1599067 A1.

To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, the prior art references must teach or suggest all of the claim elements. M.P.E.P. § 2143. There must also be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to combine the references. *Id.* Applicant respectfully submits that these criteria for obviousness have not been satisfied.

With respect to teaching or suggesting all the claim limitations, both Isahaya and Streiff are completely silent with respect to the recited plurality of struts that support the incorporated surface relative to the wall.

USSR 1599067 A1 fails to remedy the above-described deficiency in Isahaya and Streiff with respect to claim 6. Isahaya and Streiff both fail to disclose a plurality of struts that support the incorporated surface relative to the wall. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that a prima facie case for obviousness has not been established, and Applicant therefore requests that this § 103 (a) rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Entry of the Amendment after Final Rejection is requested. The Amendment is believed to overcome the pending rejections. No substantial new matter is added and no new issues are believed to be raised. No additional claims are presented.

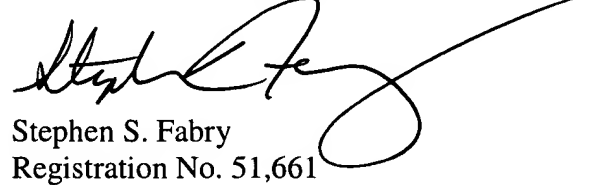
A petition for a one-month extension is requested with the fee of \$110.00 submitted herewith. It is noted that the due date, December 21, 2003, for taking action fell on a Sunday and this Amendment is being submitted, along with a one-month extension fee, on the next succeeding business day in accordance with 37 CFR 1.7 and therefore is believed to be timely. Should the petition or fee not be received, it is requested that this be considered a petition for an extension for a one-month extension and that any required fees be charged to the Deposit Account of the undersigned attorney, Deposit Account No. 50-2036.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the application are believed in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite issuance of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at 202/861-1714.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER & HOSTETLER LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen S. Fabry', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

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Date: December 22, 2003
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